

SIDE GALLERY

ERNESTO HAUNER



Sofa

Manufactured by Ernesto Hauner
Brazil, 1955
Wood and upholstery

Measurements

245 x 87 x 70h cm
96,5 x 24,3 x 27,6h in

Details

Marked with the stamp of the manufacturer

Byography

Ernesto Hauner (1922–1997) was an influential Italian-Brazilian designer, architect, and entrepreneur, widely recognized for his pivotal contributions to mid-20th-century Brazilian modernist design. Born in Trieste, Italy, Hauner initially studied architecture and design in Europe before emigrating to Brazil in the late 1940s, drawn by the country's burgeoning modernist movement. His work was instrumental in blending European design principles with the rich cultural and material landscape of Brazil.

Hauner co-founded Forma in 1954, a furniture company that became one of the leading voices of Brazilian design. Alongside partner Carlo Hauner (no relation) and later with Sergio Rodrigues, Forma produced modern, elegant, and functional furniture, characterized by clean lines, organic materials, and a seamless fusion of craftsmanship and industrial techniques. The company's pieces, especially the iconic armchairs, tables, and sofas, embodied the ethos of modernism, with a focus on simplicity, comfort, and form.

Hauner's designs often showcased Brazil's natural resources, particularly tropical woods and locally sourced textiles, while also embracing modern materials like metal and glass. His creations contributed to Brazil's international design reputation, particularly during the post-war period, when the world looked to South America for fresh artistic inspiration.

Throughout his career, Hauner's work was exhibited internationally and his designs remain sought after by collectors and design enthusiasts. His furniture continues to reflect the balance between aesthetics and functionality that defined Brazilian modernism, making him a lasting figure in the global design narrative.